8/31/03

I fully oppose RM-10787 by NCVEC.

NCVEC does not represent Amateur Radio operators. Volunteer examiners for a service are not elected or designated representatives, they speak only with the voice of any individual.

Statistically, there is *no merit* to the main argument most amateurs do not operate CW. The results of a recent ARRL poll are at:

http://www.arrl.org/survey.php3?pollnr=176

This poll indicates the following amateur activity:

No CW at all is only 32.6% Less than 25% CW is 17.1% 26 to 100% CW is 50.2%

Comparing those who operate CW more than 75% of the time to those who operate no CW, the CW operators are 35.4% compared to 32.6% with no CW operation.

It makes little sense to totally remove element 1 when CW activity remains at high levels. Element 1 should remain.

Sincerely, Charles T. Rauch